

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph.

[0032] Similarly, metadata 224 and location 226 of file 228 may be hashed to generate substantially unique digital signatures 234, 244. These signatures 234, 244 may then serve as index values into metadata and location hash tables 230, 240 respectively. Additionally, entries (e.g., entry 232) in metadata hash table 230 may contain links 236, 238 to location 226 and content 222 corresponding to file 228, while entries (e.g., entry 242) in location hash table 240 may contain links 246, 248 to content 222 and metadata 224 corresponding to file 228. These links 236, 238, 246, 248 may consist of the associated digital signature for the location 226, content 222, and metadata 224. In this manner, file 228 may be stored in database 160 and reconstituted at will, Additionally, ~~additionally~~ access to any component 222, 224, 226 of file 228-222 in database 160 will allow access to any other component of file 228-222, as will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art. It will also be apparent that these same structures may be used to store and link as many or as few components or pieces of information as is desired. An exemplary embodiment of database 160 is illustrated in Example 1.

Please replace paragraph [0037] with the following amended paragraph.

[0037] Portions of the methods described herein may be implemented in suitable software code that may reside within ROM, RAM, or a hard disk. The instructions in an embodiment of the present invention may be contained on a data storage device, such as a hard disk. ~~FIG. 2 illustrates a~~ For example, in one embodiment, a combination of software code elements 204, 206, and 208 ~~that~~ are embodied within a data processing system readable medium ~~202, on HD-200~~. Alternatively, the instructions may be stored as software code elements on a DASD array, magnetic tape, floppy diskette, optical storage device, or other appropriate data processing system readable medium or storage device.